## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

OMB-01 T-03 EB-11 AID-20 RSR-01 /118 W ----- 053037

R 141722 Z MAR 73
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9295
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
USCINCSO

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PFOR PINS PINT BL AR

SUBJECT: REACTION TO PERONIST VICTORY IN ARGENTINA

- 1. LAST NIGHT AND THIS MORNING I HAD OPPORTUNITY TO QUESTION THE TWO FOREMOST BOLIVIAN POLITICAL LEADERS ON THE ARGENTINA ELECTION RESULTS. THESE WERE FORMER PRESIDENT AND MNR LEADER VICTOR PAZ ESTENSSORO AND FONMINISTER AND FSB PARTY LEADER, MARIO GUTIERREZ GUTIERREZ.
- 2. VICTOR PAZ ESTENSSORO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER THE PERONIST VICTORY. HE SAID HE THOUGHT THIS WAS THE ONLY OUTCOME WHICH COULD AT LAST BRING POLITICAL PEACE TO ARGENTINA AND HE THEREFORE WELCOMED IT. THIS MORNINGS NEWSPAPERS REPORT THAT PAZ, IN THE NAME OF THE MNR PARTY, HAS SENT CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAMS TO CAMPORA.

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3. THE FONMINISTER SAID HE THOUGHT THE RESULT WAS PREDICTABLE AND THAT IT WAS ALSO THE FAULT OF LANUSSE FOR NOT HAVING BETTER PREPARED THE GROUND TO AVOID THIS OUTCOME. HE SAID, HOWEVER, HE FAVORED THE MOVE AT LONG LAST TO BRING PERONISTS BACK INTO ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN ARGENTINE AFFAIRS. HE DID NOT THINK THIS WOULD RESULT IN WORSENED RELATIONS WITH BOLIVIA: BUT IF IT DID. THIS WOULD LEAD TO MOVES TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONS BETWEEN BOLIVIA AND PARAGUAY AND BOLIVIA AND BRAZIL. ESPECIALLY. HE THOUGHT THE NEW GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE ABLE TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN ARGENTINA AND IF IT DID THIS COULD BE BENEFICIAL FOR BOLIVIA. HE MENTIONED SEVERAL PROJECTS UNDER WHICH ARGENTINA WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN HELPING BOLIVIA CONSTRUCTION OF THE SANTA CRUZ/ BENI RAILWAY AND PAVING OF THE BERMEJO/ TARIJA/ POTOSI/ SUCRE HIGHWAYS) BUT THESE HAD BEEN MOVING SLOWLY IF AT ALL BECAUSE ARGENTINA SIMPLY LACKED THE FUNDS TO BACK UP ITS COMMITMENTS. HE THOUGHT THE PERONISTS' VICTORY WOULD POST SPECIAL PROBLEMS FOR BRAZIL AND ALSO SPECULATED ON ITS PRODUCING A CLEAVAGE IN SOUTH AMERICA SHOULD THE PERONISTS CARRY OUT THEIR CAMPAIGN PROMISE TO SEEK TO ENTER ARGENTINA INTO THE ANDEAN GROUP. THIS. HE THOUGHT, COULD ESTABLISH A COMPETITION ALONG LANGUAGE AND RACIAL LINES BETWEEN SPANISH SOUTH AMERICA AND PORTUGUESE SOUTH AMERICA. AS TO BOLIVIAN INTERNAL SECURITY, HE DID NOT THINK THE PERONISTS' VICTORY WOULD HAVE MUCH EFFECT IN THE SENSE THAT BOLIVIAN EXPATRIATES WOULD FIND SUPPORT THERE. REVOLUTIONS, HE SAID, ARE MADE INSIDE A COUNTRY-- NOT OUTSIDE OF IT. AS LONG AS THE BOLIVIAN ARMED FORCES REMAIN UNIFIED AND LOYAL AND AS LONG AS THE TWO PRINCIPAL PARTIES COLLABORATE IN THE FPN-- WHICH. HE OBSERVED. HAS GIVEN BOLIVIA ITS BROADEST- BASED GOVERNMENT IN MODERN TIMES-- BOLIVIA WOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF ITSELF WITHOUT FEAR. SIRACUSA

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TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PINS, PINT, AR, BL

To: ARA ASUNCION **BRASILIA BUENOS AIRES** LIMA MONTEVIDEO SANTIAGO

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